

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 07153 130655Z

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FOR CU/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, KS

SUBJ: IV GRANTS FOR FOREIGN LABOR LEADERS

REF: STATE 210495 & 170384; SEOUL 6673

1. POST NOMINATES BANG SOON-JO, PRESIDENT OF KOREAN NATIONAL TEXTILE WORKERS' UNION, AND CHOI IK-OK, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INT'L AFFAIRS DEPT, FEDERATION OF KOREAN TRADE UNIONS, FOR THIRTY-DAY FY-76 IV GRANTS FOR PARTICIPATION AFL-CIO BIENNIAL CONVENTION AND OBSERVATIONS/CONSULTATION WITH COLLEGUES IN LABOR FIELD FOLLOWING CONVENTION. BAE SANG-HO, FKTU PRESIDENT, AND BANG SOON-JO ALREADY INVITED ATTEND CONVENTION. HOWEVER, BAE UNABLE ATTEND DUE PREPARATION FKTU'S OWN CONVENTION, OCTOBER 12-15, AND WISHES SEND CHOI IK-OK IN HIS PLACE. AAFLI CONVEYED TO AFL-CIO FKTU'S DESIRE SEND BANG AND CHOI AS ITS DELEGATES TO CONVENTION AND REQUESTS EXTEND ADDITIONAL INVITATION TO CHOI.

2. BANG AND CHOI WILL PLAN ATTEND ICFTU CONGRESS, IF IV GRANTS FORTHCOMING, JOINED BY FKTU SECRETARY-GENERAL PARK YOUNG-SUNG IN US PRIOR THEIR DEPARTURE FOR MEXICO CITY PROBABLY ON OCTOBER 16. IF APPROVED FOR GRANTS, TWO NOMINEES WISH DIVIDE PROGRAM IN TWO PARTS, 15 DAYS INCLUDING PARTICIPATION AFL- UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 07153 130655Z

CIO CONVENTION PRIOR ICFTU CONGRESS AND ANOTHER 15 DAYS,

OCTOBER 27-NOVEMBER 10, AFTER MEXICO CONGRESS. SECRETARY-GENERAL PARK DESIRES JOIN LATTER HALF PROGRAM AT OWN EXPENSE.

3. IF DEPT APPROVES, BANG AND CHOI WILL PLAN ARRIVE SAN FRANCISCO OCTOBER 1. THEY WILL FOLLOW WHATEVER PROGRAM DEPT OR AFL-CIO COULD ARRANGE FOR FIRST HALF PROGRAM. TWO LABOR LEADERS PLUS PARK WILL THEN PLAN ARRIVE WASHDC OCTOBER 26 FROM MEXICO CITY FOR SECOND HALF PROGRAM BEGINNING OCTOBER 27 IF AGREEABLE. THEY WISH VISIT AFL-CIO AND AAFLI AND MEET GEORGE MEANY AND OTHER AMERICAN LABOR LEADERS; SINCE BANG REPRESENTS TEXTILE WORKERS, GROUP WISHES VISIT ILGW & AN APPRO-PRIVATE TEXTILE FACTORY; GROUP ALSO WISHES TO VISIT HARVARD TRADE UNION PROJECT AND CORNELL UNIVERSITY FOR OBSERVATION LABOR TRAINING AS FKTU WILL SOON ESTABLISH ITS EDUCATION CENTER. GROUP ALSO WISHES VISIT NEW YORK, CHICAGO, AND DENVER. WE ALSO SUGGEST MEETING WITH COUNTRY DIRECTOR AT STATE DEPARTMENT.

4. SATISFACTORY NAME CHECKSHAVE BEEN RECEIVED ON ALL VISITORS AND WILL CABLE FLIGHT DATA FOR ARRIVAL IN SAN FRANCISCO AND WASHDC ASAP. THEY DESIRE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR FIRST HALF PROGRAM, ONE TWIN FOR CHOI AND BANG; AND ONE TWIN PLUS ONE SINGLE FOR PARK DURING SECOND HALF PROGRAM.

5. APPRECIATE GRANT APPROVAL VIA PRIORITY CABLE.

6. BIO-DATA ON THREE LABOR LEADERS:

BANG SOON-JO: PRESIDENT, NATIONAL TEXTILE WORKERS' UNION. BORN IN TAEJON, KOREA OCTOBER 9, 1929, BANG JOINED PUSAN RAILWAY BUREAU AFTER TWO YEARS' STUDY AT TAEJON MIDDLE SCHOOL. ENTERED HAPDONG SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY IN 1946 AND ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THAT COMPANY'S UNION IN 1957, POST WHICH HE STILL OCCUPIES. HAS BECOME ACTIVE IN NATIONAL TEXTILE WORKERS' UNION SINCE 1961 WHEN HE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF NTWU BRANCH IN HIS COMPANY, SUBSEQUENTLY ROSE TO PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL UNION IN 1974 AFTER SERVING AS GENERAL-SECRETARY AND VICE PRESIDENT. BECAME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER, TEXTILE WORKERS' ASIAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION (TWARO) IN 1972. TRAVELED TO JAPAN IN 1972 AND 1975 TO ATTEND ANNUAL CONVENTIONS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SEOUL 07153 130655Z

OF JAPAN FEDERATION OF TEXTILE WORKERS' UNIONS (ZENSEN), AND TO SINGAPORE IN 1974 FOR TWARO CONFERENCE. NO ENGLISH, WILL NEED INTERPRETER. ADDRESS: 67 SAMJONG-DONG, TAEJON, KOREA.

CHI IK-OK: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, FEDERATION OF KOREAN TRADE UNIONS. BORN IN SEOUL JULY 10, 1938, CHOI GRADUATED YONSEI UNIVERSITY IN 1963 WITH LL.M. DEGREE. APPOINTED ASST DIRECTOR, INT'L AFFAIRS DEPT,

FKTU IN 1974 AFTER SERVING AS ASST DIRECTOR, ORGANIZATION DEPT, FKTU. TRAVELED TO BANGKOK THIS SUMMER TO ATTEND ICFTU REGIONAL MEETING. SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH BUT WILL NEED INTERPRETE FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. ADDRESS: 111-4 KONGDUK-DONG, MAPO-KU, SEOUL.

PARK YOUNG-SUNG: SECRETARY-GENERAL, FKTU SINCE 1973. BORN IN KYUNGGI-DO, KOREA MARCH 15, 1932, PARK GRADUATE POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPT, TANKUK UNIVERSQTY WITH B.A. IN 1957. HAS BECOME ACTIVE IN NATIONAL LABOR SCENE SINCE HIS ELECTION AS PRESIDENT, NATIONAL CHEMICAL WORKERS' UNION IN 1961 SERVING FOUR TWO YEAR TERMS UNTIL 1969. ALSO SERVED AS VICE PRESIDENT, FKTU, 1967-1970. IN ADDITION, PARK SERVES ON NUMBEROUS COMMITTEES, CONCERNING FAIR LABOR STANDARD PRACTICE, OF FKTU AS WELL AS ROKG OFFICE OF LABOR AFFAIRS. TRAVELED TO VENEZUELA (1966), TURKEY (1970), SINGAPORE (1973) TO ATTEND INTERATIONAL FEDERATION OF PETROCHEMICAL WORKERS' CONVENTIONS; MANILA (1963) AND MALAYSIA (1972) FOR ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF IFPCWU; AND JAPAN (1974) TO ATTEND 10TH CONVENTION OF "DOMEI", AND U.S. IN 1966 ON FY-67 PARTIAL IV GRANT. UNDERSTANDS FAIR ENGLISH, WILL NEED INTERPRETER. ADDRESS: 81-41 SHINSOO-DONG, MAPO-KU, SEOUL.
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